

  
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**  
**RN-BSN PROGRAM**  
**2010-2011**

**“Educational Excellence in a Caring Environment”**

**MISSION OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT UWG:**

The mission of the RN-BSN program at the University of West Georgia is to offer high quality undergraduate And graduate education that:

- Prepares registered nurses for basic practice roles in diverse health care settings in Georgia and the surrounding region.
- Integrates a strong liberal arts curriculum.
- Provides regional outreach through external degree and off-campus programs.
- Provides a caring, supportive, personal environment for learning that:
  - Affirms the holistic nature of individuals
  - Reflects caring as the essence of nursing
  - Expects that nurses use critical thinking in decision making
  - Supports evidence-based practice
  - Utilizes disciplinary rigor to support BSN student progress toward clinical competence.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE RN-BSN CURRICULUM:**

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program for Registered Nurses (RN-BSN) is for individuals who are already licensed as registered nurses (RN). The program prepares Registered Nurses for professional advancement and offers interactive learning through traditional classroom and online environments. This program combines a rich and liberal foundation in arts, sciences, and humanities with a unique nursing curriculum that emphasizes the art and science of nursing.

- The Nursing sequence is greater than 50% online and many of the core courses are entirely online through eCore.
- RN students complete 16 semester hours of required nursing courses and are eligible for up to 44 hours of semester credit through the Georgia RN-BSN Articulation Plan.
- Students may earn the 60 semester hours of BSN Core Curriculum through transfer credit.
- The RN-BSN program is offered at the main campus in Carrollton and at an external degree campus at Georgia Highlands College in Rome.
- The curriculum also offers a dynamic community of caring created by full-time tenure track faculty and small classes.

Applicants seeking admission to the RN-BSN program should be committed to engaging in caring nursing practices with individuals from diverse backgrounds. Nursing practice is holistic and recognizes the relationship of the mind, body and spirit. As critical thinkers, students will be expected to examine personal value systems and the value systems of others. Students seeking admission to this program should consider their personal goals and values in light of those expressed in the philosophy of the program.

Faculty in the RN-BSN program view registered nurse students as colleagues and make every attempt to structure learning experiences to meet the needs of adult learners. Recognizing the associate degree or diploma in nursing as a foundation for further studies, clinical and classroom experiences are identified to complement previous experiences of the enrolled RN's. While every effort is made to arrange class schedules that accommodate working students, applicants for admission should be aware of the difficulties that may be encountered in attempting to work full-time while completing RN-BSN nursing courses and core courses.

The RN-BSN program is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and is approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing.

## **RN-BSN ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:**

**Admission to the RN-BSN program is a separate and independent process that occurs after admission to the University of West Georgia. To be considered for admission, applicants must meet the following requirements:**

1. Admission to the University of West Georgia.
2. Current Georgia license as a professional registered nurse.
3. Minimum college grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 on 4.0 scale.
4. Completed RN-BSN Admission Application received in the School of Nursing by **April 1st**.
5. Transferable college credit equivalent to 36 hours of the following courses:
  - ENGL 1101 (Area A) – 3 hours
  - ENGL 1102 (Area A) – 3 hours
  - MATH 1001, 1101 or 1111 (Area A) – 3 hours
  - Area D course (one lab science or statistics course) – 3-4 hours
  - BIOL 2021/2021L (Area F) – 4 hours
  - BIOL 2022/2022L (Area F) – 4 hours
  - BIOL 2030/2030L (Area F) – 4 hours
  - 11-12 hours of other required core curriculum courses (Areas B through F) – see the RN-BSN Curriculum Plan for a list of all required core courses
6. To complete the admission process, transfer students must have official transcripts from all institutions attended sent to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The Office of the Registrar will evaluate all transcripts to determine applicability of transfer credit for the BSN degree.

**The Fall application deadline for enrollment on Carrollton & Rome Campuses is April 1<sup>st</sup>.**


## **RN-BSN COURSE SCHEDULING AND CURRICULUM PLAN:**

Classes for the RN-BSN program are scheduled to meet the needs of working nurses, however, work schedules should be flexible enough to allow attendance at evening classes in Rome may begin as early as 3:00 pm and end as late as 9:00 pm. Courses on the Carrollton campus are scheduled during the day and NURS 3172 will include students enrolled in the Traditional BSN program. Classes are usually offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the external degree and off-campus sites. Students may enroll in nursing courses on any of the three campuses as long as there is space available.

There is one clinical course in the RN-BSN program, which requires 120 hours of preceptor-based clinical experiences. Students should plan to schedule their clinical hours Monday through Friday between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Students who must schedule clinical experiences after 7:00 pm or during the weekend must make that request with their clinical instructor prior to enrollment in NURS 4545.

The RN-BSN Curriculum Plan and Projected Course Offerings for 2010-2011 for Carrollton and Rome campuses are available in the School of Nursing, or on the School of Nursing website.

Additional information about the School of Nursing and its activities, programs, courses, and faculty can be obtained at <http://www.westga.edu/~nurs>. Open advising hours during Fall and Spring semesters are posted on the website. Other advising times are by appointment.

  
**SCHOOL OF NURSING**  
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678-839-6552 – CARROLLTON CAMPUS  
<http://www.westga.edu/~nurs>